

HOUSE BILL 1174

By Windle

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55,
Chapter 8, Part 1, relative to highway construction
workers, vehicles and equipment.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-132, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated subsection:

(g) Upon approaching a highway or bridge construction zone where any highway construction worker or any stationary or slow-moving highway construction equipment or vehicle is present, a person who drives an approaching vehicle shall:

(1) Proceeding with due caution, yield the right-of-way by making a lane change into a lane not adjacent to the highway construction worker or the highway construction equipment or vehicle, if possible with due regard to safety and traffic conditions, if on a highway having at least four (4) lanes with not less than two (2) lanes proceeding in the same direction as the approaching vehicle; or

(2) Proceeding with due caution, reduce the speed of the vehicle, maintaining a safe speed for road conditions, if changing lanes would be impossible or unsafe.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 55-8-132(h), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(h) This section shall not operate to relieve the operator of an authorized emergency vehicle, a recovery vehicle, a highway maintenance vehicle, a highway construction vehicle, or highway construction equipment from the duty to operate such vehicle or equipment with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.